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Application No. 10/526,297
Reply to Office Action of July 24, 2008

Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A test kit comprising a penetration layer, and a plurality of coloration pads held in contact with the penetration layer, wherein a sample liquid supplied to the penetration layer is fed to each of the coloration pads through the penetration layer, [[and]]

~~wherein the penetration layer allows liquid penetration mainly thicknesswise of said penetration layer while restricting liquid penetration in a planar direction of the penetration layer.~~

wherein the penetration layer is formed with a plurality of thicknesswise extending pores for allowing the sample liquid to penetrate thicknesswise of the penetration layer while preventing the sample liquid from spreading in a planar direction of the penetration layer, and

wherein the penetration layer is laminated on a water absorbent carrier that spreads the sample liquid in the planar direction of the water absorbent carrier for drawing up by the penetration layer, the plurality of coloration pads being laminated on a surface of the penetration layer facing away from the water absorbent carrier for exposure on the penetration layer.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The test kit according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~penetration layer and the plurality of coloration pads are laminated in this order on a~~ water absorbent carrier includes a laminated portion covered by the penetration layer and a sample

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applying portion extending beyond the penetration layer for exposure to apply the liquid sample.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The test kit according to Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the plurality of pores have a size of 0.1~12 μ m.

6. (Currently Amended) The test kit according to Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the penetration membrane has a porosity of 4~20vol%.

7. (Currently Amended) The test kit according to Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the penetration membrane is formed by track etching.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The test kit according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of coloration pads are arranged in a matrix.

10. (Original) The test kit according to Claim 1, wherein at least two of the plurality of coloration pads differ from each other with respect to coloration components for allowing measurement of a plurality of items.

11. (Original) The test kit according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of coloration pads are formed within a specific region, and the surface area of the specific region is 2.0~15mm \times 2.0~15mm.

12. (Original) The test kit according to Claim 11, wherein the surface area of the specific region accounted for by the respective coloration pads is no more than 2.0 mm².

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13. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a test kit, comprising:
forming a penetration membrane on a water absorbent carrier; and
~~a first step of~~ forming a plurality of coloration pads by coating a carrier a surface
of the penetration layer facing away from the water absorbent carrier with a reagent
liquid containing a coloration component using a non-contact dispenser and by thereafter
drying the reagent liquid; ~~[[and]]~~
~~a second step of intimately attaching a penetration membrane so as to cover the~~
~~plurality of coloration pads; wherein the penetration membrane used in the second step~~
~~allows liquid penetration mainly thicknesswise of said penetration membrane while~~
~~restricting liquid penetration in a planar direction of the penetration membrane.~~
wherein the penetration layer is formed with a plurality of thicknesswise
extending pores for allowing the sample liquid to penetrate thicknesswise of the
penetration layer while preventing the sample liquid from spreading in a planar direction
of the penetration layer. and
wherein the water absorbent carrier spreads the sample liquid in the planar
direction of the water absorbent carrier for drawing up by the penetration layer, the
plurality of coloration pads being exposed on the penetration layer.

14. (Original) The test kit producing process according to Claim 13, wherein the non-contact dispenser used in the first step is of an inkjet type.

15. (Original) The test kit producing process according to Claim 13, wherein the plurality of coloration pads are formed in a matrix arrangement in the first step.

16. (Original) The test kit producing process according to Claim 13, wherein, in the first step, at least two of the plurality of coloration pads differ from each other with respect to coloration components.

17. (Original) The test kit producing process according to Claim 13, wherein, in the first step, the plurality of coloration pads are formed within a specific region with a surface area of 2.0~15mm×2.0~15mm.

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18. (Original) The test kit producing process according to Claim 17, wherein the surface area of the specific region accounted for by the respective coloration pads is set to no more than 2.0mm^2 .